

U.S. Serial No. 10/700,534  
Amdt. dated December 15, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of September 16, 2004

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**REMARKS**

Applicant has amended the title from "GROUND COVER FASTENER" to "GROUND COVER ANCHOR" to reflect the language used in the specification and the claims.

**Claims 20 and 31 are rejected under 35 USC 112.**

**Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 16, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 31 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Deroche (US 5,327,922).**

**Claims 1, 6, 7, 9-11, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 27-29 and 31 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ramirez et al (US 5,713,383).**

**Claims 8, 17, 18, 20, and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deroche.**

**Claims 5 and 23 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramirez et al. in view of St. Clair (US 4,258,514).**

**Claims 12-13 and 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.**

Applicant has amended the claims by cancelling the existing claims and introducing rewritten claims based on the claims objected to by the examiner.

New Claim 32 combines subject matter from cancelled claims 1, 9, and 12. Applicant submits that Claim 32 contains allowable subject matter and should be allowed by the examiner. Specifically, none of the references cited by the examiner in rejecting the noted claims show a ground cover anchor comprising a shaft having threads at one end and a point at the other end for inserting into the ground, a nut threaded onto the shaft, a bottom length extending perpendicularly from the shaft and fixed to the shaft, a top length extending perpendicularly from the shaft and movable between the bottom length and the nut, and the bottom and top lengths each having an end for receiving a ground cover, the ground cover being secured when the ends come together by moving the nut down the shaft.

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Since new Claim 32 is allowable, Claims 33 to 47 which depend from it are also allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted, signed and certified as being faxed to the USPTO on

Dec. 15/04 (total of 7 pages).

(Date)

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